



Arkansas Department of Health and Human Services

Division of Health



Paul K. Halverson, DrPH, Director

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November 8, 2006

Dear Household:

We think you might be interested in some information the Health Division will be collecting in the next two weeks. The Arkansas Department of Health and Human Services is performing a survey that is going to give us information on smoking rates for adults, the number of Arkansans who consider themselves overweight, diabetes, arthritis, and heart disease and many more health issues. You can view these results on the Division of Health (DOH) website for your own knowledge. Public health experts will use the results to evaluate current programs like Stamp Out Smoking and Breastcare and create new programs to improve your health.

Clearwater Research of Boise, Idaho, is conducting this survey on behalf of the DOH and The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta. When interviewers call some time in the next two weeks, they will ask a specific male or female 18 or older in your household to please answer the health questions from the survey. It will take approximately 15 minutes to complete the health survey. Interviewers won't be making a sales pitch of any kind, and will only ask health-related questions confidentially. If by chance we call at an inconvenient time, please let the interviewer know, and we will gladly set up an appointment at a better time for you. Your participation in this survey is important for the results to truly represent Arkansas's population.

Answering the health questions is voluntary; the information you provide in the health survey will be kept strictly confidential, and your household will never be identified in any reports. We greatly appreciate your household's participation in this survey – it is important to the health of Arkansas. If you have any questions, or would like more information about participating, please call our survey specialist, LaTonya Steward, toll-free at 1-800-462-0599 Ext: 2003.

You may see results of previous surveys on the Internet at <http://www.brfss.arkansas.gov/>, or visit www.cdc.gov/brfss for national data and comparison to other states.

Thank you for your valuable assistance and cooperation.

Sincerely,

John Senner
Branch Chief, Center for Health Statistics
Arkansas Department of Health and Human Services